## TED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KIMURA et al.

Serial No. 09/890,160

ssistant Commissioner for Patents

Filed: July 27, 2001

Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Ref.: 427-44

Group: 1761

93-24-02

THE CHIEF

Examiner:

SOFT CANDY AND ITS PRODUCTION METHOD

March 19, 2002

Sir:

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Attention is invited to the attached copy of an International Search Report in the underlying PCT application and a copy of each document cited in it together with a completed Form PTO-1449. The US counterpart of EP 676147 is included.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

Also attached, for the examiners information, is a copy of the PCT application published February 7, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application. Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)